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Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU:—"In cases where the district boards have Engineers of the Provincial grade will the Government permit those boards to carry on their sanitary works?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"I am not aware of any district board having applied to carry on its sanitary work with its own staff."

Mr. A. KALESWARA RAO:—"May I know Sir, whether in cases in which a municipality undertakes to carry these sanitary works with the assistance of competent men approved by the Sanitary Engineer will the Government allow them to do so?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"I am unable to give a general answer. But in cases where a competent staff is available the policy of the Government is to allow them to carry on their works. But in cases where there are no competent men this cannot be done."

Mr. A. RANGANATHA MUDALIYAR:—"Will the Government raise any objection owing to the levy of centage charges or can they carry on the work?"

The hon Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"Certainly they can carry on their work."

Mr. K. V. R. SWAMI:—"How is it, Sir, then the Government are claiming centage charges from Coimbatore?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"I wish to inform the hon. Member that the answer is in respect of centage charges in respect of cast-iron pipes only and not about carrying on the work."

Mr. P. C. VENKATAPATI RAJU:—"Is it not a fact, Sir, when the local bodies ask for permission to carry on these works that they complain of the inordinate delay on the part of the Public Works Department in carrying on these works?"

The hon. Mr. S. MUTHIAH MUDALIYAR:—"Probably it may be so."

Agriculture

Appointment of a Systematic Botanist in the Agricultural Research Institute, Coimbatore.

* 1835 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI: Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(a) what salary is proposed to be given to the officer proposed to be recruited or recruited from another Government to fill the post of Systematic Botanist in the Agricultural Research Institute, Coimbatore;

(b) whether it is more than the salary which was mentioned in the advertisement calling for applications and what the necessity is for giving this officer more than what he would have got if he had started service under this Government;

(c) whether the salary which an officer gets under another Government where scales and grades are different is taken into consideration when he is transferred to this Government at his own request; and

(d) what is the salary drawn now by men in the Agricultural Department who started service with the same qualifications and about the same date?

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A.—(*a*) It is proposed to give Mr. Narayanaswami a salary of Rs. 500 per mensem in the scale of Rs. 250—25—750.

(*b*) Though a salary of Rs. 200 per mensem was advertised for the post it was found that none of the applicants except Mr. Narayanaswami had the qualifications and experience necessary to hold the post. Mr. Narayanaswami is already getting a substantive pay of Rs. 475 per mensem at Calcutta and so he could not be offered less here.

11-15 a.m. (*c*) The question of salary is governed by Fundamental Rule 32. Mr. Narayanaswami's appointment is not a case of transfer at his request but one of selection from a number of applicants. His pay at Calcutta was taken into account when his pay here was fixed.

(*d*) Rupees 475.

Mr. R. NAGAN GOWDA :—" With reference to the answer to clause (*c*), may I know from the hon. Minister how many applications were received in all ? "

The hon. Mr. M. R. SETURATNAM AYYAR :—" About 50, Sir. "

Claims of Mr. Jivanna Rao for the post of Systematic Botanist.

* 1836 Q.—Mr. S. SATYAMURTI : Will the hon. the Minister for Development be pleased to state—

(*a*) whether it is a fact that Diwan Bahadur K. Rangachariyar was of opinion that Mr. Jivanna Rao would be the best person to occupy the post of Systematic Botanist provided he was given the opportunities and facilities to do the work ;

(*b*) why this recommendation was ignored and what are the reasons given by the head of the department for ignoring Mr. Jivanna Rao's claims and recommending another ; and

(*c*) whether the candidate now selected was having his promotions in the usual course in the office in which he is now serving without being superseded ?

A.—(*a*) Apparently on information from private sources that the advertisement of the post was being contemplated, Mr. Rangachariyar who was then a retired officer volunteered the opinion that it was undesirable to get a new hand when qualified candidates were available in the department itself and represented that Mr. Jivanna Rao was capable of doing higher work in Systematic Botany.

(*b*) The recommendation had to be ignored, as being hasty and because a better and more experienced candidate in the person of Mr. Narayanaswami Ayyar offered his services for the post. Mr. Jivanna Rao is already in the Madras Agricultural Service and the proposed appointment of Mr. Narayanaswami does not, therefore, amount to the overlooking of Mr. Jivanna Rao's claims.

(*c*) The Government have no information.